those who are ignorant not only of fungi but of other departments of botany as well. To make up in some slight degree for the lack of a comprehensive systematic work on mushrooms, synopses of various genera, with descriptions of the species most likely to be met with, are given in the more recent bulletins. It is to the bulletins that the Club owes its large membership in many cities of the South and West.

For the preservation of a record of the distribution of species, and for collecting other information of scientific value, an herbarium has been started, to which have already been added most of the more conspicuous fungi to be found in the neighborhood of Boston. It is the wish of a few of the more devoted and enthusiastic workers to make this herbarium of more general use to the Club members by placing it in a suitable room, in some part of Boston easily accessible, with some one in attendance to help in the identification of specimens.

For membership in the Club the only qualifications are an interest in mushrooms and the payment of one dollar each year.

The officers for the current year, which ends on April 30, are: President, George B. Fessenden; Vice-president, Wm. C. Bates; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Jennie F. Conant; Corresponding Secretary, Hollis Webster, P. O. Box 21, Cambridge, Mass.

SOME UNCOMMON MOSSES IN NORTHERN ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

J. W. Huntington.

Perhaps it might be interesting to the readers of Rhodora to know that quite a number of species of mosses considered very rare or unknown to the State of Massachusetts are found quite plentifully in the towns of Essex County, north of the Merrimac River, especially Amesbury. This town is a particularly good locality, from the fact that it has a diversity of habitat, and so is well adapted to the growth of many species. The centre of the town is, in fact, a swamp, which is undoubtedly of glacial origin, a well-defined moraine skirting its entire southern border, sometimes cutting across and making little bays of swamp land, which it is quite interesting to follow out and study. The borders of this swamp are somewhat depressed, while the centre is crowning, making a very noticeable difference in the distribution of certain species of mosses. For instance, *Hylocomium squarrosum*,

which is considered uncommon in the state, or indeed in New England, is here abundant, but it always grows about the same distance from the marginal ridge. It is provokingly sterile. I have hunted long for fruit, but always unsuccessfully. This swamp is the home of the *Dicrana;* at least, there are three that make it their home, *D. scoparium*, with its variety *pallidum*, and in various forms, *D. palustre* and *D. Bergeri*. The latter is abundant, but not always easily distinguished from *D. scoparium*, though the trained eye can see points of difference at a glance. On the shores one may find *D. undulatum*, *D. montanum*, and *D. Drummondi*.

While speaking of *Dicrana*, I will mention finding *D. viride*. It was on a small stone in a roadside wall. It was only a little patch, but, unlike the species elsewhere, it was abundantly fruited. Dr. R. H. True told me he thought there was more fruit on that little clump than in all the herbaria in Europe.

On the southern shore of Lake Attitash, a body of water in the western part of the town, is a wood of pine, extending, perhaps, a half mile, and on the bank, just over the water, for the whole distance, may be found a moss which, common enough in northern New England, is uncommon in Massachusetts, namely, *Pogonatum alpinum*. In this locality, *Webera sessilis* is very plentiful. In these pond regions there are deep depressions in which are pools of stagnant water. In these grow Button Bushes, which are covered with *Dichelyma capillaceum* and *Fontinalis Lescurii*, often in good fruit. In a similar locality in New Hampshire, just over the line, I find a very beautiful moss, with all the habits of *D. capillaceum* but clearly distinct from that species, or from *D. pallescens* or *Hypnum fluitans*, which it resembles. It is of a beautiful golden color, with a very long leaf, acutely serrate at the apex. I have referred it to *D. Swartzii*, though perhaps not correctly.

A swamp which I have explored this summer for the first time has yielded quite richly. The first visit I made to it I found very little of interest in the moss line, but later I found on the edge of the bogs, where the ground was free from sedge, a moss suggesting *Atrichum undulatum*, which on study proved to be *A. crispum*, sterile. In a later search I found a small patch of fertile plants, which were very interesting indeed. I also found a very pretty little Hypnum in the same habitat, that is, on the bare side of the bogs, hugging closely the sedge roots, mostly sterile, but sometimes nicely fruited. This dainty little moss proves to be *Plagiothecium latebricola*.

There are, no doubt, many more rare species about here, but we shall have to let time unfold them to us, as in this field the hunters are few, and the only one I know in this locality is a plain farmer, with no pretensions to scientific knowledge, but with an ardent love for the work, and for all things beautiful and wonderful.

AMESBURY, MASS.

FLORA OF MT. MOOSILAUKE.

WILLARD W. EGGLESTON.

MT. MOOSILAUKE, New Hampshire, is an isolated peak southwest of the main ranges of the White Mountains and lying in Benton about nine miles west of North Woodstock. It is reached by a carriage road from Warren or by road and trail from both North Woodstock and Warren Summit. The trail from Warren Summit is the shortest approach from the railroad and the only one for which the writer can vouch. Moosilauke (with an altitude of 4,811 feet) is the highest peak in the region covered by Prof. H. G. Jesup's Catalogue of the plants within thirty miles of Hanover, New Hampshire, and has been visited by a number of botanists who have by this means added several species to the Jesup Flora. Thus the Rev. Joseph Blake is credited with having found on Moosilauke *Empetrum nigrum*, L., *Juncus trifidus*, L., *Luzula spicata*, Desv.[1]; Mr. W. F. Flint with *Arenaria Groenlandica*, Spreng., *Potentilla tridentata*, Ait.,[1] *Solidago Virgaurea alpina*, Bigel.,[1] *Vaccinium uliginosum*, L., *V. Vitis-Idaea*, L.; and the Rev. Arthur Fairbanks with *Loiseleuria procumbens*, Desv.[1]

I had long desired to visit this mountain and on the 26th of August, 1898, had an opportunity to do so, but under rather unfavorable circumstances. After a week of good weather at Mt. Washington I reached Warren Summit only to wait two days in the rain and then climb the mountain through a wet bushy trail and find the summit capped in fog, the thermometer falling and the wind almost a hurricane. That night the thermometer fell to 26° Fahrenheit and it did not rise above 34° the next day, — a temperature which with a strong gale does not permit very pleasant summer botanizing. However, I was rewarded for this discomfort by the most magnificent view I have ever seen. Whiteface in the Adirondacks, distant by air line 105 miles,

[1] No herbarium specimens known.